

2019 WARRANT ARTICLES TOWN OF LITCHFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield in the County of Hillsborough in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the first session of the annual meeting of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on **February 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** for explanation, discussion and debate of each warrant article. Warrant articles may be amended at this session per RSA §40:13, IV. You are hereby notified that the second session of the annual meeting of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on **Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 7:00 o'clock** in the forenoon for the choice of Town Officers elected by official ballot to vote on questions required by laws to be inserted on the official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot per RSA §40:13, VIII. The polls for the election of town officers and other action required to be inserted on said ballot will be open on said date at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon and will not close earlier than 7:00 o'clock in the evening.

ARTICLE 1 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Two (2) Selectmen - 3 Year Term

Two (2) Budget Committee - 3 Year Term

One (1) Budget Committee - 1 Year Term

One (1) Cemetery Trustee - 3 Year Term

Two (2) Library Trustee - 3 Year Term

One (1) Trustees of Trust Fund - 3 Year Term

ARTICLE 2 - 2019 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$6,757,953**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$6,713,245** which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Litchfield or by Law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.08**. [2019 Budget](#) [2019 Default Budget](#)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1-0)

ARTICLE 3 - POLICE CONTRACT

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items for wage and related costs that have been included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Litchfield and Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees which provides for the following increases in wages and benefits at the current staffing level and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$37,909** for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.04**. [Tentative Agreement](#) [Contract Summary](#)

2019 - \$37,909

2020 - \$24,942

2021 - \$4,764

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1-0)

ARTICLE 4 - HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH AGENCIES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** to support Human Services and Health Agencies that provide services to the Town of Litchfield. If approved, a committee consisting of the Welfare Director, Health Officer and one Resident will review funding requests and submit recommended funding amounts to the Board of Selectmen for approval. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.03**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (6-2-0)

ARTICLE 5 - TOWN EARNED TIME ACCRUAL EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** to be placed in the Earned Time Accrual Expendable Trust Fund as previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1-0)

ARTICLE 6 - TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Technology and Communication Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purchase and repair of technology and communication equipment and software and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** to be placed in the fund; further to name the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0-0)

ARTICLE 7 - LAND PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$90,000** to purchase a parcel of land in the Town of Litchfield described as Map 30, Lot 1 on Hillcrest Road for the purpose of making ingress and egress safety improvements to the Transfer / Recycling Facility and Highway Garage and provide for future expansion of operational needs. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Estimated 2019 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0-0)

ARTICLE 8 - TOWN FLAG

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, upon conducting at least two (2) public hearings, to adopt the Official Town Flag.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 9 - KENO

To see if the Town will vote to allow the operation of Keno within the town pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51?

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)



ARTICLE 10 - BY PETITION

This petition article seeks to implement one of the recommendations from the 2018 Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI) report. The study recommended more man-hours for the Litchfield Highway Department. Currently the department does not have the proper staffing to provide appropriate safety standards on the job.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 11 - BY PETITION

To see if the Town will vote to reverse the Code Enforcement Officer, Health Inspector and Zoning Administrator (Three positions in one) back to its prior successful operation as a single, appointed position, reporting to the Board of Selectmen, and being independent of the fire department. If adopted this change will take effect within 30 days and continue in effect until changed by a majority vote at an annual or special meeting.

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 12 - BY PETITION

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the appointed office of Highway Agent and to authorize the Town to elect the Highway Agent. The current Highway Agent shall continue to hold the office until the 2020 Annual Town Meeting election, at which time, the Town will elect a Highway Agent. If adopted, the authority of the Town to elect the Highway Agent shall continue in effect until changed by a majority vote at an annual or special meeting.

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 13 - BY PETITION

To see if the Town will vote to reverse the appointed office of part-time Fire Chief to an elected position. The current Fire Chief shall continue to hold the office until the 2020 Annual Town Meeting election, at which time, the Town will elect a part-time Fire Chief. If adopted, the authority of the Town to elect the Fire Chief shall continue in effect until changed by a majority vote at an annual or special meeting.

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)


ARTICLE 14 - BY PETITION

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue/dissolve the Town Administrator position. If passed, this will take effect 30 days from the 2019 town election.

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)


GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS AT SAID LITCHFIELD THIS 14th DAY OF JANUARY 2019.


Brent T. Lemire, Chairman


John R. Brunelle, Vice Chairman


Kevin C. Bourque


Kurt D. Schaefer


Steven J. Webber

Litchfield Board of Selectmen